WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image processing method for use in a scanner driver, comprising steps of:

outputting a scanning command to a scanner;

judging whether an image corresponding an image signal obtained from the scanner in response to the command represents a specified image; and

outputting a result obtained in said judging step so as to use the result in a processing of the image signal.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said outputting step outputs to an operation system executing the process on the image signal according to the result obtained in said judging step.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein said judging step executes judgement using template matching.

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein a process of obtaining the image signal from the scanner is executed by a scanner module, and the process of judging whether the image corresponding to the image signal represents the specified image is executed by a forgery preventing module.

5. A method according to claim 1, wherein said judging step executes judgement on the image corresponding to the image signal and plural specified images.

6. A method according to claim 1, wherein said judging step executes judgement with an image signal obtained by spatial thinning of the image signal.

7. A method according to claim 1, wherein said judging step executes judgement executed with an image signal obtained by reducing the number of bits of the image signal.

8. A method according to claim 1, wherein said judging step terminates judgement when there is obtained a high judgment rate indicating that the image corresponding to the image signal obtained from the scanner represents the specified image.

9. A method according to claim 1, wherein said judging step executes judgement with an image signal obtained by spatial thinning of the image signal, and, if the result obtained in said judging step indicates a high probability of a specified image, said judging step executes judgement with the image signal without thinning.

10. A method according to claim 9, wherein said judgment with the unthinned image signal is executed by using only the image signal in an area containing an object of judgment within the thinned image signal.

11. A method according to claim 1, wherein said judging step execute second judgement when a high judgment rate is obtained in a first judgment in two kinds of judgements provided for a same specific image.

12. A computer readable memory medium which stored codes for executing the method according to claim 1.

13. An operating system for obtaining a result of judgment indicating whether an image corresponding to an image signal obtained by scanning represents a specified image; and

executing a process according to the obtained result of judgment.

14. An operating system according to claim 13, wherein said judgment is executed in a scanner driver.

15. An operating system according to claim 14, wherein information indicating whether said judgment has been executed is obtained from said scanner driver.

16. An operating system according to claim 13, wherein said process is a working on said image signal.

17. An operating system according to claim 13, wherein said process is a process of ending an application functioning on said operating system.

18. An image processing method for use in an input device comprising steps of:

outputting an image signal generating command to an input device;

judging whether an image corresponding to the image signal obtained from said input device in response to said command represents a specified image; and

outputting a result obtained in said judging step for use for a process of said image signal.

19. A method according to claim 18, wherein said input device is a digital camera, a digital camcorder, a film scanner, a compact disk, a minidisk or a DVD.

20. A computer readable memory medium which stored codes for executing the process according to claim 18.

21. An image processing method for use in a

printer driver comprising the steps of:

receiving an instruction for a printing process;

judging whether an image corresponding to an image signal developed represents a specified image according to the printing process; and

outputting a result obtained in said judging step so as to use the result in a process of said image signal.

22. An image processing method for use in a printer driver according to claim 21,

wherein a forgery preventing module in an operating system outputs an instruction for executing a predetermined display to a display driver according to the result obtained in said judging step.

23. An image processing method for use in a printer driver according to claim 21,

wherein a forgery preventing module in an operating system outputs an instruction for terminating a spooling operation according to the result obtained in said judging step.

24. An image processing method for use in a printer driver according to claim 21,

wherein said judging step execute judgement using template matching.

25. An image processing method for use in a printer driver according to claim 22,

wherein said predetermined display indicates that the image is an image of which reproduction is inhibited.

26. An image processing method for use in a printer driver according to claim 25,

wherein when an instruction for printing is issued after the display, log information is stored in memory means.

27. An image processing method for use in a printer driver according to claim 21,

wherein said judging step executes judgement for an image corresponding to the image signal and plural specific images.

28. An image processing method for use in a printer driver according to claim 21,

wherein said judging step executes judgement with an image signal obtained by spatial thinning of the image signal.

29. An image processing method for use in a printer driver according to claim 21,

wherein said judging step executes with an image

signal obtained by reducing the number of bits of the image signal.

30. An image processing method for use in a printer driver according to claim 21,

wherein said judging step terminates when there is obtained a high judgment rate indicating that the image corresponding to the obtained image signal is a specific image.

31. An image processing method for use in a printer driver according to claim 21,

wherein, said judging step executes judgement with the image signal obtained by spatial thinning of the image signal, when a result of the judgement indicating a high probability of a specific image, said judging step executes judgment with the image signal without thinning.

32. An image processing method for use in a printer driver according to claim 30,

wherein said judgment with the unthinned image signal is executed with only the image signal of an area containing an object of judgment in the thinned image signal.

33. An image processing method for use in a

printer driver according to claim 31,

wherein said judging step executes second judgement when a high judgment rate is obtained in first judgment in two kinds of judgements provided for a same specific image.

34. A computer readable memory medium which stored codes for executing the method according to claim 21.

35. An operating system for:

obtainng a result of a judgment whether an image corresponding to an image signal obtained according to a print instruction represents a specific image;

outputting a signal for executing a process according said obtained result of judgment.

36. An operating system according to claim 35, wherein said judgment is executed in a printer driver.

37. An operating system according to claim 35, wherein said process is a process for terminating the printing of the image corresponding to said image signal.

38. An operating system according to claim 35, wherein said process is a process for displaying that

said image is a specified image.

39. An image processing method for use in a driver comprising the steps of:

outputting an image signal generating command to an input device;

judging whether an image corresponding to the image signal obtained from said input device in response to said command represents a specified image; and

outputting a signal for causing a display unit to display a result obtained in said judging step.

40. An image processing method for use in a driver according to claim 39, wherein said input device is a digital camera, a digital camcorder, a scanner, a compact disk, a mini disk, or a DVD.

41. An image processing method comprising steps of:

judging whether an image corresponding to an image signal represents a specific image; and

adding information indicating that said image is the specific image, to said image signal if image data of two image judged as specific image is stored when said judgment identifies that said image is a specified image.

42. A method according to claim 41, wherein said added information can be recognized by a printer driver or a printer.

43. A method according to claim 41, wherein said added information is also copied when image signal is copied to a memory medium.

44. A method according to claim 41, wherein said added information is added as a digital watermark to the image signal.

45. A scanner adapted for outputting an image signal to the scanner driver according to claim 1.

46. A printer adapted for printing an image from the printer driver according to claim 21.